

Message Text

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13

ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12 IO-12

AID-20 RSR-01 /115 W

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R 142300 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9098

INFO AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

C O N F I D E N T I A L GUATEMALA 1202

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR OAS US

SUBJECT: OASGA VIEWS ON KEY AGENDA ITEMS

REF: STATE 045844

1. DURING MEETING WITH FONMIN ARENALES THIS MORNING, I TOOK OPPORTUNITY TO SEEK HIS VIEWS ON OASGA AGENDA ITEMS 9 AND 10, AS INSTRUCTED REFTEL. ARENALES SAID HE HAD DISCUSSED THESE ITEMS WITH FONMIN BORGONOV OF SAN SALVADOR AND BATRES OF HONDURAS AND THAT THE THREE HAD COME TO CONCLUSION THAT THEY HAD NO SUBSTANTIVE IDEAS TO OFFER AT THIS POINT. HE SAID THEY AGREED, HOWEVER, ON FOLLOWING THREE PROCEDURAL POINTS:

1) OASGA SHOULD APPOINT A COMMISSION TO STUDY THE PROBLEMS IN DEPTH AND COME UP WITH RECOMMENDATIONS, AS DEBATE IN OASGA FORUM ON THESE TOPICS WOULD BE INCONCLUSIVE AND USELESS; 2) THEY WOULD STRONGLY OPPOSE ANY ATTEMPTS TO INCREASE THE OAS QUOTAS OR ASSESSMENTS F THEIR COUNTRIES; AND 3) THAT EFFORTS SHOULD BE MADE TO DO AWAY WITH AS MANY AS POSSIBLE OF THE " COSTLY AND TIME- CONSUMING" SATELITE ORGANIZATIONS THAT HAD GROWN UP AROUND THE OAS, COMBINING SOME OF THEM OR BRINGING THEM BACK INTO THE MAIN BODY OF THE OAS. HE DID NOT SEEM TO HAVE WELL IN MIND WHAT OAS AGENCIES

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FALL INTO THIS CATEGORY.

3. COMMENT: FROM THE CONVERSATION IT WAS APPARENT THAT ARENALES HAD NOT DONE ANY SERIOUS THINKING ABOUT THE BASIC ISSUES REFLECTED IN ITEMS 9 AND 10 OF THE AGENDA AND HE IS NOT LIKELY TO DO SO BEFORE THE OASGA. SPEAKING PERSONALLY ANDNOT AS FOREIGN MINISTER HE LAMENTED THE CONFRONTATION TREND WITHIN THE OAS, NOTING THE INCREASING " ANTI- GRINGO" SENTIMENTS BEING EXPRESSED IN THIS FORUM. HE EXPECTS THIS TREND TO INCREASE RATHER THAN DIMINISH AND IN THIS CONNECTION MENTIONED THE VICTORY OF CAMPORA IN ARGENTINA. HE QUESTIONED HOW USEFUL THE OAS WOULD BE IF THE NUMBER OF U. S.- BAITING GOVERNMENTS CONTINUE TO INCREASE.
BOWDLER

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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